Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 03392 101025Z ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 /011 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7770

UNCLAS TEHRAN 3392

PLEASE PASS FEDERAL HIGHWAYS ADMINISTRATION

EO 11652: N/A

SUBJ: PAYMENT FOR FHWA PROJECT

REF: A. STATE 086839, B. 77 TEHRAN 8306

- 1. USIRJC OFFICER MET APRIL 10 WITH MORT DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ORGANIZATION, METHOD AND MANPOWER PLANNING KOHZAD AZARHOUSH AND TWO MORT ACCOUNTANTS FAMILIAR WITH THE FHWA CASE.
- 2. MORT ACCEPTS DOLS390,149.79 FIGURE FOR BILLINGS COVERING DECEMBER 1976 TO JUNE 1977 PERIOD AS VALID, AND HAS ITEMIZED BILLS FOR ALL. AS STATED IN REFTEL B, FHWA WAS NOT REIMBURSED FOR THESE BILLINGS BECAUSE MINISTRY DECIDED TO LET FHWA DEDUCT SUM FROM DOLS 500,000 DOLLAR WORKING FUND. NO PROLBEM HERE.
- 3. HOWEVER MORT QUESTIONS MONTHLY BILLINGS FOR POST-JUNE 1977 PERIOD, AS THEY NEVER RECEIVED ACTUAL ITEMIZED BILLS. UPON PROVISION, THEY WILL EXAMINE THEM AND, IF ACCEPTABLE, PAY THEM.
- 4. FURTHERMORE, RE CLOSE-OUT COSTS CITED IN MEMORANDUM WHICH WAS GIVEN TO AZARHOUSH IN WASHINGTON DURING UNCLASSIFIED

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JOINT COMMISSION MEETING, MORT ASKS THAT FHWA FURTHER BREAK DOW STATE DEPARTMENT FAAS FY-77 CHARGES OF DOLS86,131.59, DISBURSEMENTS IN TEHRAN FOR SHIPMENT OF HHE (PARTIAL) OF DOLS18,800.00, AND ESTIMATED OUTSTANDING BILLINGS FOR SHIPMENT OF HHE, AIR FREIGHT, AUTOMOBILES, DAMAGE CLAIMS, ETC., OF DOLS91,500.00. PLEASE PROVIDE COPIES OF ACTUAL BILLINGS PAID.

- 5. FINALLY, MORT ASKS FOR A COMPLETE ACCOUNTING OF FUNDS RECEIVED AND DISBURSED DURING COURSE OF PROGRAM SO AS TO CALCULATE FHWA'S TAX LIABILITY. MORT WILL ASSUME THIS LIABILITY, BUT NEEDS COMPLETE FIGURES SO AS TO COMPUTE CORRECT PERCENTAGE. THIS NEED NOT BE TOO SPECIFIC AS APPROXIMATE MONTHLY TOTALS WILL SUFFICE.
- 6. MORT MORE THAN WILLING TO ACCEPT THAT IT MAY OWE MORE MONEY BUT DUE TO GREAT COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS, HAS NOT FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE NATURE OF THE VARIOUS CLAIMS BY FHWA. HAD ITEMIZED BILLINGS BEEN PROVIDED EACH TIME A CLAIM WAS MADE, THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO DELAY. INSTEAD, MORT WAS SIMPLY TOLD THAT X DOLLARS WERE STILL OWED, WITHOUT ADEQUATE EXPLANATION OR JUSTIFICATION. CITING QUOTE ESTIMATED CLOSE-OUT COSTS UNQUOTE WAS SIMPLY INSUFFICIENT.
- 7. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) ITEMIZE BILLINGS FOR POST-JUNE 1977 PERIOD, (B) PROVIDE BILLINGS FOR CLOSE-OUT COSTS, AND (C) SUBMIT COMPLETE ACCOUNTING FOR TOTAL PROGRAM. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), DEBT REPAYMENTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 10 apr 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN03392
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780153-1061 Format: TEL

From: TEHRAN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780473/aaaacjzt.tel

Line Count: 85 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation Codes. Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: f35a20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ACTION DOTE

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 86839, 77 TEHRAN 8306

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 mar 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a

Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a SAS ID: 3016951 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PAYMENT FOR FHWA PROJECT

TAGS: ETRN, IR, USIRJC

Review Transfer Date:

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f35a20b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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